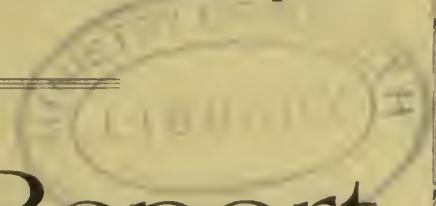


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Urban District Council of Crompton



Annual Report

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health

for the Urban District of Crompton, Lancashire,

:: for the Year ending 31st December, 1925. ::

AREA OF DISTRICT	2,865 ACRES
POPULATION (R.G. 1925)	15,160
BIRTH RATE	14.7
DEATH RATE	15.3
PHTHISIS DEATH RATE	1.05
DEATH RATE OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR ...	103

J. V. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B.,

M.O.H., CROMPTON.

TOWN HALL, SHAW,

APRIL, 1926.

Jones & Brooks Ltd., Printers, Market Street, Shaw.

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A faint, large watermark of a classical building with four columns and a triangular pediment is visible in the background.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

Urban Sanitary District of Crompton, Lancashire,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CROMPTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report for the Year 1925. This is a detailed report and according to the instructions of the Minister of Health covers the Sanitary and Public Health work and improvements which have been carried out during the past five years.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to all the officials of the Council for the help they have given me in the discharge of my duties, and to express my entire satisfaction with the work of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Frank Taylor).

To summarise the most important schemes which have been carried out in the past five years, I consider the following are most worthy of attention :—

1. The number of Houses built under the Housing Acts.
2. The very large percentage of conversions of closets to the water carriage system.
3. The provision of open spaces and recreation grounds.
4. The completion of the Low Crompton Sewage Works.

I consider the greatest need of our district now to be :—

1. To continue building houses until the great demand has been met.
2. To find a solution for the Smoke Problem.

In conclusion I beg to acknowledge most gratefully the courtesy and kindness which I have received from all Members of the Council since my appointment.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN V. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B.,

CROMPTON, APRIL, 1926.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The Urban Sanitary District of Crompton, situated between the towns of Oldham and Rochdale, lies on the western slopes of the Pennine Chain, at a height varying from 600 feet to 1,100 feet above sea level. It has an area of about 2,865 acres, about half of which is built upon, the remainder being hilly and undulating moorland. The climate is damp, and the rainfall considerable. The prevailing winds are from the S.W., coming from the Irish Sea ; and as, in their journey, they pass over large industrial areas they bring with them a certain amount of smoke to add to the already large amount which is produced in the District.

There is no arable land in the District. The unbuilt part is chiefly comprised of small farms, keeping cattle, which supply the District with milk. Generally speaking the land is of poor quality, so that the farmers have to buy fodder for their cattle. The increased price of these foods during the war, and since, have not been compensated for by the higher price obtained for the milk—so the farmers say—the result being that some of the smaller farms have been given up. Some of the land in the higher parts of the District produces good crops of hay of fair quality, but I doubt if many farmers in this District grow enough for the requirements of their Stock.

The population of the District, according to the Census of 1921, was 14,917. The estimated population for the middle of 1925 is 15,160. The principal Industry is Cotton Spinning. A few mills have weaving sheds in addition, and weave their own yarn into cloth. There is one Cotton Waste Spinning Mill. There is a small Colliery, with Coke Ovens, at Jubilee, on the N.E. border of the District.

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	2,865
Population Census 1921, 14,917						Estimated 1925, 15,160
Number of Inhabited Houses 1921	...	...	...	...	...	3,658
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers, 1921	...					3,605
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	£121,874
Sums represented by a Penny Rate ...						£480
Amount of Poor Law Reliefs, approximately						£16 weekly.

Vital Statistics.

PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

		Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuber- cul- osis of Respira- tory System	Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births
Mean of 5 years—					
1895—1899 ...	...	26.3	18.1	1.21	189
1900—1904 ...	...	24.5	18.0	0.87	179
1905—1909 ...	...	22.0	15.1	0.92	129
1910—1914 ...	...	21.8	15.7	0.82	140
1915—1919 ...	...	15.8	15.4	1.06	119
1920—1924 ...	...	19.4	13.7	0.85	100
Year—					
1924 ...	...	15.5	12.9	0.91	108
1925 ...	...	14.7	*15.3	1.05	103
Increase or decrease in 1925 on—					
Mean of 5 years 1920—1924 ...	...	+4.7	+1.6	+0.20	+3
Previous year ...	...	-0.8	+2.4	+0.14	-5

* Standardizing factor 1.073.

Corrected Death Rate = 16.4 per 1,000.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate (R.G.) 14.7
	Legitimate	117	105	
Illegitimate	1	0	1	
Deaths	232	115	117	Death Rate (R.G.) 15.3

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth } From Sepsis 1
} „ other causes —

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
22	1	23
Deaths from Measles (all ages) 3		
„ Whooping Cough (all ages) 2		
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1		

The number of Infantile deaths shows a slight decrease from last year—23 as compared with 26, and as there is a considerable fall in the Birth Rate as well—223 as compared with 239, the Infantile Death Rate is slightly decreased—103 as compared with 108.

The Death Rate is considerably higher than last year, viz. 15.3.

One cannot help but regret our falling Birth Rate, though this is general throughout the country. In our district this is probably mainly due to the bad condition of trade locally and overcrowding.

During the past five years we have had several epidemics of Measles, Chicken-pox and Whooping Cough. I consider that the parents of this district could and should do more to prevent the spread of infectious disease if they were more careful in keeping children convalescent from infectious disease, but still in an infectious state, from mixing with other children. And what is much more important even, is to keep mild cases indoors until the infectious period has passed. Influenza has been prevalent each of the 5 years under review, but I think it is most noticeable that its virulence is decreasing with each epidemic. This will probably only be for a time and will be succeeded by an increase in virulence. No case of this disease can be treated lightly, neglect in treating symptoms in the early days of an attack can only too often be established as the cause of a fatal result. In this congested area, containing as it does many overcrowded houses, an epidemic can spread with most alarming rapidity, and in the case of a severe type of an epidemic, can give rise to a regrettably high death rate.

Whether owing to better diagnosis, or as I am inclined to think, to an increased prevalence of the disease, I think I ought to mention in this report, that the death rate from Cancer is very much on the increase in this district. I give below the deaths from this disease in each of the past five years :—

1921—14. 1922—29 1923—17. 1924—21. 1925—31.

It would be beyond the scope of this report to point out to the public how the death rate from cancer might be reduced, but provided Cancer can be detected in its early stages, it can be cured, and one can only emphasize the importance of people of middle and old age, seeking early medical advice when there are any suspicious symptoms, e.g., recurring pain, the presence of a lump, particularly in the breast in females), diarrhoea (continued), haemorrhage from the bowel, and in women of 50 and over a blood-stained discharge, etc.

There is one particular form of Cancer which occurs fairly commonly in this district. I refer to Spinners Cancer. I would recommend all spinners to practise the utmost cleanliness and to use plenty of soap and hot water daily to those lower parts of the body which come in contact with crude mineral oil, this being rubbed into the skin by contact with the faller-bar. This has been abundantly proved to be the cause of this particular form of Cancer.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDIZED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Isolation Hospitals.

- 1.—Chadderton, Royton and Crompton (Joint), Cinder Hill, Chadderton. For Smallpox only.
- 2.—Oldham Corporation Hospital, Westhulme, Oldham.
- 3.—Union Workhouse Hospital.

Sanatoria and Tuberculosis Hospitals.

The various Sanatoria and Hospitals under the Lancashire County Council are available for the District but are not provided nor subsidized by the Local Authority.

Hospitals.

- 1.—Oldham Royal Infirmary.
- 2.—Oldham Poor Law Hospital.
- 3.—Several Manchester Hospitals.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, and homeless children, except the Oldham Poor Law Hospital.

Mr. C. Drake, the General Superintendent and Secretary of the Oldham Royal Infirmary, has kindly supplied me with the number of persons admitted to the Institution from this District viz. :—

Men	45
Women	52
Children	23
	—
	120

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES. Horse conveyance provided by Local Authority.

(b) OTHER CASES. Motor Ambulance at the Fire Station, Oldham.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There is a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (consultation) open every Wednesday, from 2-30 p.m. to 5-0 p.m., at the Town Hall. There are no other Clinics or Treatment Centres.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1.—J. V. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., Medical Officer of Health (Part time).

2.—FRANK TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.I., Sanitary Officer (Whole time).

3.—Miss B. MORT, C.M.B., Health Visitor and Nurse to Infant Welfare Centre (temporarily appointed).

Contribution is made under the Public Health Acts towards the Salary of all the above.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL. The Crompton Sick Nursing Association, which is supported by voluntary contributions, employ two nurses. These nurses visit non-infectious cases upon the written request of the medical man in attendance. For attendance at operations a fee is charged (usually £1 1s. Od.).

Number of Patients seen during 1925	...	185
„ Visits paid	...	5422
„ Deaths	...	28
„ Convalescents	...	124
„ Operations in patients' homes	...	20
„ Operations in hospital	...	14
„ Removals to hospital	...	13

There is no nursing provided by the Local Authority or County Council, nor any financial assistance.

(b) INFECTIOUS CASES. The majority of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases are sent to Hospital at the expense of the Local Authority. If efficient Isolation can be obtained in the home, the case is nursed there, either by the mother, relative or paid help. At the request of the doctor any infectious case is sent to Hospital, provided there is accommodation.

Midwives.

There are now 5 Registered Midwives practising in the District. There are also some untrained women who do Maternity Work under the supervision of the doctor in attendance.

None of the above are employed or subsidized by the Local Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological Examinations.

1. By Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

	Positive		Negative		Total
Diphtheria	... 3	...	38	...	41
Enteric Fever	... ...	...	1	...	1
Water (Chemical) (Lead)	... ...	...	1	...	1
Milk, for Bovine T.B.	... ...	...	5	...	5
,, Chemical Exam.	... ...	...	...	...	6
,, Bacillus Coll.	... ...	...	...	...	6
Fæces for Dysentry	... ...	...	1	...	1
					<hr/> Total 61

2. By Tuberculosis Officers for the Area.

	Positive		Negative		Total
Tuberculosis	{ Sputum 15	...	53	...	68
	Urine ...	...	2	...	2
	— ...	—	—	...	—
	15 ...	...	55	...	70

Diphtheria Anti-toxin (5,000 units) is kept at the Town Hall, and supplied gratuitously to medical men, upon request.

ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890. Date when commenced 12th December, 1892.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts 1, 2 & 3). Date when commenced 12th December, 1892.

Baths and Wash-house Act, 1897. Date when commenced 8th December, 1897.

Notification of Births Act, 1907. Date when commenced 9th January, 1909.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 81, 84, 85, 86, 90 and 91, Parts II., III. (except clause 37), IV., V., VI., and Section 95 of Part X. Date when commenced 12th May, 1908 and 11th May, 1909.

The Urban District of Bredbury and Romiley, &c. (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, adopted 1920.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The water supply of this District is very good, and is derived from the Oldham Corporation Reservoirs, with the exception of a few farms and houses in the outlying districts supplied from wells and springs.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is no serious pollution of these from trade effluents.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The drainage of a large number of back passages has been recently completed, many of the older drains having been replaced by new ones. This has enabled the conversion of pail closets into water closets to be rapidly proceeded with. During the past five years 1,903 conversions have been completed.

There are still about 500 pail closets to be converted, and of these 250 will, it is expected, be shortly completed.

It is perhaps interesting to note that these conversions have been largely done as unemployment work, towards which Loans were granted by the Unemployment Grants Committee.

I am glad to report that several of the Cotton Mills referred to in my last report have commenced their conversions. The remainder not yet converted will, I expect, be completed at an early date.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The purification of the sewage of the District continues very satisfactory. Within the last five years the Sewage Works at Low Crompton has been remodelled and brought up to date, additional tanks and percolating filters having been made. The system at New Hey, which deals with the bulk of our sewage, is one of tanks and contact beds.

SCAVENGING. Ashbins are in practically universal use, and regular collection of refuse is undertaken and disposed of at the Destructor.

REFUSE DESTRUCTOR.

The adoption of Motor Vehicles for the collection of the House Refuse has enabled the Council to deal with practically all such refuse at the Destructor. This necessitated the addition of a third cell to the existing plant which is now efficiently dealing with the increased collection, and has entirely dispensed with the use of tips which are always very undesirable.

STATEMENT AS TO HOUSES IN THE DISTRICT AND THEIR SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

							1925
No. of Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	3781
,, Factories, Workshops, Lock-up Shops, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	219
,, Houses without back-door...	...	...	...	...	...	...	238
,, Houses back-to-back	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
,, Pail Closets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	631
,, Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	3103
,, Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	263
,, Covered Ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
,, Open Ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
,, Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	3429
,, Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
,, Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

523 Pail Closets were either converted or pulled down during the year.

3 Waste Water Closets were converted to Fresh Water Closets.

604 Water Closets were provided, viz.:—

523 at Private Dwelling Houses.

81 at Cotton Mills, Schools, Institutes, &c.

604

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

No. of Investigations made in Notifiable Infectious Disease	523
,, Houses inspected on complaint, &c. ...	91
,, Inspections as to Sanitary Conveniences at Factories	78
,, " " " Workshops and Bakehouses	102
,, " " " Dairies and Cowsheds	164
,, " " " Slaughter Houses and Food Stores, &c	772
,, " " " Common Lodging-houses and Houses Let in Lodgings	14
,, Visits paid to Schools ...	7
,, Visits paid to Market ...	56
,, Smoke Observations ...	74
,, Inspections as to Drainage ...	196
,, " Stables and Manure Heaps	29
,, " Caravans and Van Dwellers	25
,, " Tips	13
,, " Pig Styes...	19
,, " Chip Shops	6

2169

In addition to the above inspections, a considerable amount of time was devoted to the conversion of pail closets to fresh water closets, and reinspection of nuisances under notice.

Preliminary Notices	274
Statutory Notices	44

PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE IN COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES.

Defective Roof, Eavesgutter and Downspouts	65
Dirty Houses cleansed	7
Drains cleansed and repaired	69
House Drains connected to Sewer	6
Lead Slop-pipes provided and repaired ...	14
Water Closets repaired	11
Closets cleansed	9
New Sanitary Pails provided	16
Ashbins provided	156
Yards repaired	12
Defective Ventilation	5
Dirty Pig Styes	4
Manure nuisances	5
Slopstones defective	2
Slaughterhouse nuisance	1
Yards cleansed	5
Accumulations of Refuse removed	8
Outbuildings, &c., repaired	10
Poultry nuisances	1
Defective External Walls	7
Defective Internal Walls	4
Defective Fixtures and Sett Boilers	8
Dirty Walls and Ceilings cleansed	11
Defective Floors repaired	11
Defective W.W.C. repaired	4
Defective Windows	6
Dangerous Places	2
Defective Water Supply	5
Additional W.C.'s. provided	4
Miscellaneous repairs	32
Total	500

SMOKE NUISANCE.

The Smoke Nuisance is still very little abated. Observations are regularly taken and reported upon. The Council recently arranged a course of Lectures by an expert with the object of educating Stokers and Engineers on the subject, much valuable information was given and keen discussions followed each Lecture. It was regrettable however that the Employers were noticeably absent.

Much was hoped from the formation of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Committee; but so far it has not yet adopted any definite line of action. It may possibly have been in abeyance pending the long promised Smoke legislation.

In the interest of Public Health however the matter has lost none of its urgency.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

74 half-hourly smoke observations were taken as follows :—

Total Observations taken	No Black Smoke	Under 1 Minute	1 and under 2 Minutes	2 and under 3 Minutes	3 and under 4 Minutes	4 and 5 both inclusive	Over 5 Minutes
74	20	24	14	5	+	+	3

7 firms exceeded the limit. + Legal notices were served.

2 letters of caution were sent

1 firm was prosecuted and ordered to carry out the necessary work and pay the costs of the case.

The time limit approved by the Council is as follows :—

One or two working boilers ... 3 minutes per half-hour.

Three " " ... 4 " "

Four or more " " ... 5 " "

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition and water supply of Schools is quite satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES, ETC.

There are 3 houses of this type, 2 are used as Weekly Lodgings and the other as a Common Lodging House.

They have been frequently inspected, and found to be in a fairly clean condition.

VAN DWELLERS.

The Vans occupied by travelling showmen were inspected. Sanitary conveniences and pails for refuse are provided by the Council for their use.

At the end of the year there were only 4 Caravans in the District used permanently, 2 at Grains Bar, 1 near Moss Farm (Twingates) and the other in Hope Street. Sanitary accommodation had been provided in each case.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories.

There are 64 premises which come under this designation, viz. :—

Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Boot and Shoe Makers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brickworks	...	...	...	...	...	1
Collieries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills				...	...	33
Flock Willowing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ironfounders	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners and Builders	...	...	...	...	...	3
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mineral Water Works	...	...	...	...	...	1
Machinists and Welders	...	...	...	...	...	4
Motor Repair Garages	...	...	...	...	...	3
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rope Walks	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sand Mill	..	...	...	...	...	1
Tinplate Workers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Quarries	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wheelwrights and Shoeing Forge				...	...	2

The Sanitary Conveniences, &c., at the various places have been inspected, and the following notices served :—

- 1 Accumulation of water from steam trap.
- 2 for dirty closets.
- 1 for limewashing.
- 1 Emitting dust and fly.
- 1 Defective Floors.
- 1 " Staircase
- 1 " Lighting.
- 1 Dangerous Fencing of Reservoir.

Workshops.

There are 63 premises coming under this designation, viz. :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	24
Brushmakers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cloggers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cloggers and Shoemakers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dressmakers	...	..	...	...	...	2
Hosiers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milliners and Dressmakers				...	...	2
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shoeing Forges	...	...	...	...	...	2

Shoemakers...	...	...	...	...	2
Skipmakers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Tailors ...	...	...	...	...	6
Tinplate Workers ...	...	...	...	...	3
Underclothing ...	...	...	...	...	1
Watchmakers and Jewellers ...	...	...	...	...	2

During the year 102 inspections were made and the following notices served :—

1 Notice to Limewash Bakehouse					
1 " Paint	"				
1 " Repair Defective Windows					
1 " " Roof					

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits made to Infected Houses	...	...	...	450
Houses Fumigated after Notifiable Disease.				60
Schools Fumigated and Closed	...	...	...	—
Number of Bacteriological Investigations	...	...	...	43

CASES REMOVED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Scarlet Fever (Westhulme)	...	...	...	6
Diphtheria	"	...	...	4
Measles	"	...	...	2
				—
				12

CASES REMOVED TO INSTITUTIONS (Lancashire Insurance Committee).

Tuberculosis	23
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

HOUSING.

During the past 5 years the Council have erected or have in progress of erection 160 houses. Of these 4 are Type B4, 76 Type B3 and ~~36~~ are Type A. In all cases there are three bedrooms, Bath, and W.C.

Notwithstanding the work done, the demand for houses seems as great as ever, and there are still about 380 applicants waiting. It is the intention of the Council to proceed with a further 50 houses as soon as the requisite arrangements can be made.

There is a considerable amount of overcrowding in the District, and it is very lamentable to see the number of young married couples compelled to become lodgers. This fact may be largely responsible for the falling birth rate, and certainly causes a great deal of unpleasantness.

TOWN PLANNING.

The Council have passed a resolution deciding to prepare a Town Planning Scheme. They are members of the Manchester and District Advisory Town Planning Committee, and are being included in the Oldham and District Regional Planning Committee which Committee will, when established, proceed with the preparation of a Town Planning Scheme or Schemes for its group area.

RECREATIVE AND OPEN SPACES.

A striking feature has been added to the centre of the Town by the erection of a very fine War Memorial and the layout of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land adjacent to it. It has provided a very fine and well laid out open space which is a great amenity to the District.

By the generosity of Sir Wm. Hopwood, a former Chairman of the Council, the Council acquired about 10 acres of land at High Crompton for park and recreative purposes. This land has been very tastefully laid out, and a Bowling Green and Six Public Tennis Courts provided.

Three Tennis Courts have also been constructed at Dun Wood Park (which is about 20 acres in extent), and where there has been a Bowling Green for many years.

HOUSING.

I.—Number of New Houses Erected during the Year.

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	...						24

II.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	48

III.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	25
---	-------------	----

IV. Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—
 - (a) By Owners
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners

3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders become operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—
 - (a) By Owners
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders
2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made
3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit... ...
4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made
5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders

CLEAN MILK.

The Council have frequently considered the question of securing greater cleanliness and a better quality in the milk supply of the District. I am of the opinion that, making all allowances for the difficulties of Dairy farming in this District, we ought to and could have, a cleaner and richer milk than that usually supplied by the local vendors.

Analysis frequently shows a fat deficiency as well as an unduly large percentage of gross dirt. I am strongly suspicious that in many cases deficiency in fat arises from the skimming of milk from one milking, which is afterwards mixed with the next milking. Dirt in the milk can be largely avoided by keeping the cows, cowsheds and milk utensils clean, and by scrupulous cleanliness on the part of the milkers.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The following are Registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922 :—

No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	83
No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers	..	..	..	2
				85

The Farm premises in the District are as follows :—

Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Cowkeepers only	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Farm Buildings used for other purposes	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Shopkeepers who are registered to retail Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Dairy-Men who are registered to retail Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Farmers from adjoining Districts retailing Milk in Crompton	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

During the year 164 visits were paid to the farms within the District. 17 notices were served upon the responsible persons to carry out certain repairs, etc., in accordance with the Local Byelaws.

The following shows what work has been carried out :—

Limewashing Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	4
Clean up Farm	...	...	...	...	2
Clean Cowshed Floor	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Drainage	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty Pig Sty	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Ventilation	...	...	...	...	2
,, Lighting	...	...	...	...	1
New Dairy provided	...	...	...	...	1

It was decided by the Council that samples of Milk should be obtained from several purveyors of milk and thoroughly examined so as to form some idea as to their quality and cleanliness.

The following are the results of the examinations carried out by the Analyst.

	Sample Number.					
	1	2	3	4	5	6*
Price paid per quart.....	5d.	6d.	7d.	7d.	7d.	—
Bacteria Count per 1 c.c.....	7,640,000	7,420,000	143,533	820,000	83,500	39,867
Bacillus Coli present in 1'0 c.c.	each	each	each	each	each	one
0'1 c.c. 3 tubes ...	each	each	none	each	none	none
0'01 c.c. , ...						
Cells and cellular products parts per 100,000	6	10	6	3	6	22
Extraneous matt'r parts per 100,000	14	12	10	6	11	7
Total Sediment ... parts per 100,000	20	22	16	9	17	29
Milk Fat.....	3.15%	3.3%	2.95%	4.1%	3.9%	—
Solids not Fat ...	8.81%	8.61%	8.98%	8.91%	9.00%	—
Tubercle Bacilli... None Found	None Found	None Found	None Found	None Found	None Found	None Found

* Taken by Dr. Butterworth, County Medical Officer.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 7 private slaughter houses in the District. These are licensed annually. The premises are visited at irregular intervals, if possible when slaughtering is taking place.

In 1920. In Jan., 1925. In Dec., 1925.

Registered.....	...	...	...
Licensed	6	7	7
Total	6	7	7

The slaughter houses and lairs are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition.

No arrangements have been made for the marking of meat. Condemned meat is destroyed at the Destructor.

MEAT & OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

During the year 361 visits were paid to the Market Ground, Slaughterhouses, Meat Shops, Bakehouses and places where food is prepared for sale.

The following table shows the amount of food destroyed :—
Total amount surrendered or seized :

	lbs.
(a) Tuberculosis, carcases or parts	3020
(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat, other than (a)	243
(c) Other Food Stuffs	105
 Total	 3368

On January 6th, 1925, the carcase of a cow affected with generalized Tuberculosis was seized.

It was examined by a Veterinary Surgeon, seen by a Magistrate and ordered to be destroyed.

The Council prosecuted, and the person on whose premises the carcase was found was fined £20, including costs, or one months' imprisonment.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 26 Bakehouses on the register. During the year 48 inspections were made, and the premises found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition, with the following exceptions :—

- 1 Required Repainting..
- 1 Defective Windows.
- 1 " Roof.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

69 Samples of Food and Drugs were purchased by the County Police Authorities. Superintendent Kenyon has courteously given me the following particulars for 1925 :—

NO. OF SAMPLES PUR- CHASED	ARTICLES PURCHASED.	ANALYST'S REPORT	ACTION TAKEN, IF ANY
55	Milk	42 genuine samples, remainder passable	None
1	Lobster Paste	Passable	"
1	Bisto	Genuine	"
1	Swiss Sponge	"	"
1	Sponge Mixture	"	"
2	Margarine	"	"
1	Pepper	"	"
1	Butter	"	"
1	Coffee	"	"
1	Cream of Tartar	"	"
1	Borax	"	"
1	Cinnamon	"	"
1	Ground Ginger	"	"
1	Parisian Essence	"	"
69			

In addition to the above, 6 samples of Milk were purchased by this Authority and found upon analysis to be genuine.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—
Diphtheria	6	...
Scarlet Fever...	...	16	...
Pneumonia	24	—

Other diseases generally notifiable :—

Erysipelas ...	...	8	...	—	...	—
Encephalitis Lethargica..	...	2	...	—	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	3	...	—	...	—
Puerperal Fever ...	...	—	...	—	...	1

Other diseases notifiable locally :—

Measles ...	...	312	...	2	...	3
Chicken Pox ...	...	87	...	—	...	—

TUBERCULOSIS :—

(a) Pulmonary, Male	...	11		23	18
Female	...	5			
Total	...	16			
(b) Non-Pulmonary, Male...		5		10	
Female	...	5			
		—			

For analysis of total cases and deaths under the different age groups for the above diseases, see Tables C and D at the end of Report (compiled from Local Records).

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..
10—15	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	1
15—20	2	1	1	1	3	1	...	...
20—25	...	1	1	3	1	1	1	...
25—35	5	1	..	...	...	3	...	...
35—45	2	1	1	...	3	...	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	11	5	5	5	10	6	1	1
	<u>16</u>		<u>10</u>		<u>16</u>		<u>2</u>	

Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths 0. Total Tuberculosis Deaths 18

The notification of Tuberculosis in this District is quite satisfactory.

REPORT OF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1925.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, CROMPTON,

DEAR SIR,

During the year, twenty-six notifications of patients suffering from Tuberculosis were received. Of these, twelve were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, twelve from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and there were two combined cases (lungs and shoulder, and lungs and abdomen).

Of the twelve pulmonary cases, five were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, four had negative sputum, two had no expectoration, and in one case the sputum was not examined.

The twelve non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows :—

Glands	...	...	8	Abdomen	...	2
Ribs	...	...	1	Multiple	...	1

Six of the notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis died during the year, and one of the Non-pulmonary cases died during the year.

Twenty-three of the twenty-six cases applied for treatment. In the remaining three cases no application was made for the following reasons :—Refused to apply (1), died immediately after notification (1), and diagnosis not confirmed after examination (1).

Of the patients who applied for treatment, four were sent to Sanatoria, three to Pulmonary Hospital for advanced cases, five to General Hospital for surgical treatment, etc., and the remaining eleven cases were under Dispensary supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary by the Doctors for examination and diagnosis. During the year 1925, seventy-nine new cases were sent for diagnosis by the Doctors, School Medical Officers, etc. The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment was three hundred and thirty-two.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite Tuberculosis, and twenty-one of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to the oper. cases, i.e., cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1925, there were nineteen such cases known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1925, there were seventeen positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1925, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1925, was eleven. The other six cases have had either negative or no sputum.

Ten of the positive cases died during the year.

One positive case removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation at home of the positive cases was as follows :—

Separate bedroom	...	...	...	18
Separate bed	...	...	...	4
Unable to have separate bed	..	...	..	6

Thirteen of the positive cases were in institution for treatment or isolation at some time during the year.

Twelve housing defects were reported during the year, and of these five had been remedied by the end of the year.

Sixty-eight specimens of sputum from Shaw were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, fifteen were positive and fifty-three were negative. Two specimens of urine were examined with a negative result.

During the twelve months, twenty-eight patients were discharged from institutions as follows :—

From Sanatoria	...	...	...	...	...	10
,, Pulmonary Hospitals for advanced cases	...	...	...	...	...	8
,, General Hospital for treatment of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	3
,, Sanatoria for treatment of Non-pulmonary cases	...	...	...	...	...	3
,, Manchester Skin Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	1
,, Observation Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3

The results on discharge were as follows :—

Quiescent or arrested	...	...	...	...	...	6
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	11
I.s.q.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Died	...	...	...	...	...	5

OBSERVATION CASES—

Diagnosis confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Left Observation Hospital after only being in one day	...	...	...	...	...	1

During the year 1925, all the cases who died from Tuberculosis had been previously notified.

J. L. STEWART.

REPORT OF (NURSE B. MORT) HEALTH VISITOR and INFANT WELFARE NURSE

Infant Welfare.

The Infant Welfare work sustained a great loss by the death of Mrs. M. H. Taylor last year, but the work has since been well sustained under the temporary Health Visitor, Nurse Mort, C.M.B.

The attendances at the Centre have been well maintained, and the Mothers continue to show great interest in it.

Plans for a combined Infant Welfare Centre and School Clinic have been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval. The design has been very carefully thought out along with the officials of the County Medical Officers Department.

Arrangements have recently been made with the County Public Health Authorities, whereby Hospital or other treatment is provided for rickets, and other orthopaedic cases where considered necessary.

The Infant Welfare Centre meets at the Town Hall every Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. for all Children under 5 years of age. Expectant Mothers are also invited to attend during these hours, when they can be seen by the Medical Officer, Dr. J. V. Buchanan, or consult with the Health Visitor and Nurse in charge of the Welfare Centre.

Births Notified ...	...	...	...	221
Breast Fed ...	...	...	...	184
Breast and Bottle Fed ...	...	...	...	8
Bottle Fed ...	...	...	...	10

Physical condition of Children Born :—

Healthy ...	..	...	...	200
Premature ...	...	...	...	5
Very Frail ...	...	...	...	0
Died before Visiting ...	...	...	...	7
Stillborn ...	...	...	...	9
				—
				221

Visits paid to Children under 1 Year ...	1458
" " " 2 Years...	638
" " " 3 Years...	557
" " " 4 Years...	476
" " " 5 Years...	320
Visits paid to Measles Cases ...	312
Visits paid to Expectant Mothers ...	107
	—
	3868

	Males	Females	
Registered Births ...	118	99	= 217
Crompton Babies Born out of District ...			5
Number of Times the Centre was open...			49
" Attendances ...	...	...	2564
Average Attendances ...	...	...	52·33
Attendances of Children under 1 Year ..	1567		
" " " 2 Years...	546		
" " " over 2 Years...	451		
			—
			2564

Number of Children on the Books under 1 Year ...	...	264
,, ,, ,, ,, 2 Years...	...	105
,, ,, ,, over 2 Years...	...	61
<hr/>		
		430

Cases Examined by Medical Officer	...	...	...	161
Ante-natal ...	...	...	...	1

Supply of Food and Milk :

497 Quarts of Milk.

125 lbs. of Dried Milk.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Notified	CASES		Vision Un- impair'd	Vision Impair'd	Total Blind- ness	Deaths				
	Treated									
	In Hospital	At Home								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	3	3	—	—				

J. V. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B.,
M.O.H., Crompton U.D.C.

FRANK TAYLOR, C.R.S.S.,
Sanitary Inspector.

Principal Causes of Mortality.

NAME OF DISEASE	NO. OF DEATHS
Enteric Fever	—
Erysipelas	—
Scarlet Fever	—
Measles	3
Whooping Cough	2
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5
Influenza	5
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	14
Tuberculous Meningitis	—
Other Tuberculous Disease	4
Cancer	31
Rheumatic Fever.....	2
Diabetes.....	2
Meningitis	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	17
Organic Heart Disease	28
Arterio-Sclerosis	3
Bronchitis	29
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1
Pneumonia.....	17
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1
Appendicitis	1
Cirrhosis of Liver.....	—
Alcoholism.....	—
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	4
Puerperal Fever	1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	—
Congenital Debility and Malformation (including Premature Birth)	11
Violent Deaths (excluding Suicide)	3
Suicide	2
Other Defined Diseases.....	48
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	1
Total from all causes	234

TABLE A.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1925
and Previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Uncorrected Number	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
			Nett	Number	Number	Rate	Of Non-residents Registered in the District	Of Residents not Registered in the District	Under 1 y'r of age	At all ages	Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1915	14552	291	292	20	176	12·1	1	54	56	125·3	210	14·4
1916	+14991 *13778	...	285	19	163	11·8	...	56	53	115	199	14·4
1917	+15109 *13554	...	245	16	167	12·3	1	45	21	86	209	15·4
1918	+14965 *13356	...	192	12·8	224	16·5	2	58	32	166	280	20·9
1919	+15436 *14818	...	189	12·2	140	9·44	-	45	20	105	185	12·3
1920	15408	...	385	24·8	156	10·09	-	42	28	73	198	12·8
1921	15250	...	348	22·8	141	9·3	...	56	40	114	197	12·9
1922	15340	...	274	17·8	201	13·03	...	64	31	113	265	17·2
1923	15320	...	249	16·2	149	9·72	...	49	23	92	198	12·9
1924	15370	...	239	15·5	147	9·5	...	52	26	108	199	12·9
1925	15160	...	225	14·7	162	10·6	...	61	23	103	232	15·3

Area of District in Acres (land and inland water), 2,865

† For Birth Rate.

* For Death Rate.

TABLE B.
**Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified During
the Year 1925.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED											Deaths in Hospital of Patients removed from this District	
	At Ages—Years												
	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	16	1	1	3	6	3	2	...	...	...	6	...	...
Diphtheria	6	...	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	3
Enteric .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	512	7	21	25	45	72	138	4	1	1	...	2	...
Chickenpox	87	2	4	5	9	22	44	...	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	4	...	...	...
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary	16	...	...	...	1	2	3	1	6	3	...	23	5
Other Forms	10	...	...	...	2	1	2	4	...	1	...	...	2
Pneumonia	24	...	1	...	3	3	...	6	2	6	3	...	...
Malaria .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench ....." .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS...	484	12	26	50	55	99	196	14	9	16	10	14	3
													55
													11

Isolation Hospitals (Name and Situation)—Chadderton, Royton and Crompton Joint, Cinder Hill, Chadderton (Small Pox only); Oldham Corporation Hospital, Westhulme, Oldham.

Sanatoria—The various Sanatoria under the Lancashire County Council.

TABLE C.
Causes of and Ages at Death during Year 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.												
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 & under 2 years	2 & under 5 years	3 & under 4 years	4 & under 5 years	5 & under 10 years	10 & under 15 years	15 & under 20 years	20 & under 35 years	35 & under 45 years	45 & under 65 years	65 and upwards
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
All Causes.....	232	23	4	5	1	2	7	2	8	19	15	71	75
Enteric Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	3	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough.....	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria.....	3	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	1
Encephalitis lethargica	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...
Meningococcal meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	14	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	5	5	2	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant disease	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	16	11
Rheumatic Fever.....	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Diabetes	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Cerebral Haemorrhage &c.	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	11
Heart Disease	28	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	15	8
Arteria-sclerosis	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Bronchitis	29	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	8
Pneumonia (all forms)....	17	1	5	1	...	1	...	...	2	1	4	4	14
Other respiratory diseases .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years).....	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Acute and Chronic nephritis.....	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Puerperal Sepsis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other deaths from violence	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Other defined Diseases.....	46	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	12	25
Totals.....	232	23	4	5	1	2	7	2	8	19	15	71	75

TABLE D.
Infant Mortality during the Year 1925.

**Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages
Under One Year of Age.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.												Total Deaths under 1 year
	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months			
ALL CAUSES—												
Certified.....	7	1	1	2	11	1	6	2	3	23		
Uncertified												
Smallpox												
Chicken Pox.....												
Measles												
Scarlet Fever												
Whooping Cough												1
Diphtheria and Croup.....												
Erysipelas												
Tuberculous Meningitis												
Abdominal Tuberculosis.....												
Other Tuberculous Diseases.....												
Meningitis (not Tuberculous).....												
Convulsions												
Laryngitis												
Bronchitis						1	1		1	1	1	4
Pneumonia (all forms).....									1			1
Diarrhoea												
Gastro-Enteritis						1	1		1			2
Syphilis												
Rickets												
Suffocation, overlaying												
Injury at Birth												
Atelectasis.....		1					1					1
Congenital Malformations.....									1	1		2
Premature Birth	5	1	1			7						7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus		1				1	1	2	1			5
Other Causes												
Totals.....	7	1	1	2	11	1	6	2	3	23		

